

Atlantic Learning Center

The Atlantic Learning is a pioneer program of the Highlands Center at Cape Cod National Seashore. The research facility and educational classroom will serve as a cornerstone for the campus and provide a solid science anchor for the envisioned community of artists, educators and scientists.

Science Program Development

The Atlantic Learning Center (ALC) is currently working to establish partnerships with regional research institutions for project development and future occupants or tenants of the facility. Some of the projects generated from the established partnerships are:

- Brown-tailed moth distribution and ecology, University of Massachusetts
- Lower Cape historic landscape investigation, Harvard University
- Horseshoe crab surveys, University of Rhode Island
- Genetic diversity of coyote populations, Middlebury College
- Gulf of Maine ocean observation system, University of Maine
- Historic landscape investigation, Harvard University



NPS collection

The Atlantic Learning Center facility is the former North Truro Air Force Station.

The ALC is also currently developing a "Research Catalogue" of desired natural resource projects. ALC scientists will work closely with the Inventory and Monitoring (I + M) prototype program to enhance protocol development through interaction and review.

Education Program Development

The Parks as Classroom coordinator has established several educational programs in association with the ALC. The park I + M program has delivered interactive lecture presentations and led field study programs for over 2,400 people from the general public to school groups and educators. The ALC was also associated with three university level field and classroom courses in ecology, geomorphology and mammalogy.

The University of Rhode Island (URI) is currently developing a field biology methods course that will be offered through the ALC in association with park I + M programs.

Facility Progress

Contracts for interior demolition and design for rehabilitation of two buildings at the former North Truro Air Force Station, a visiting researcher wet/dry laboratory, and an educational classroom facility have been awarded and work is currently underway.

Project Support

- Intel Corporation donated furnishings and laboratory equipment, such as ventilation hoods, stainless steel racks, laboratory work benches, desks, and chairs.
- The National Renewable Energy Laboratory pledged \$25,000 through the Federal Energy Management Program to help design the most sustainable facilities possible.

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